

A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *ISOPHAENUS* FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (COLEOPTERA:BUPRESTIDAE)¹G. H. NELSON²Department of Anatomy, Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine,
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ABSTRACT

A new species of Buprestidae, *Isophaenus klapperichorum*, is described from the Dominican Republic.

The genus *Isophaenus* is known from 3 species, each described from a single specimen. Two of these are from Mexico and the third from Cuba. A specimen of a fourth species was included in a box of Buprestidae collected in the Dominican Republic by J. & S. Klapperich and sent for identification by Dr. W. Wittmer of the Natural History Museum in Basel, Switzerland. It is named in honor of its collectors. Appreciation is extended to the publications committee of the Florida Division of Plant Industry for helpful comments.

Isophaenus klapperichorum Nelson, **new species**
(Fig. 1)

Diagnosis: Elongate, subparallel; head with vertex black; pronotum black with lateral and basal margins broadly iridescent green; elytra slightly constricted at middle, with transverse ivory fascia just anterior to middle.

Description: *Head* with front blue, vertex black; broad but distinctly narrower than pronotum. Front moderately convex, transverse, slightly narrower below than above; surface sculpture confluent shallowly alveolate; front moderately clothed with short, erect, white hairs. Eyes narrowly oblong. Antennae long and slender, reaching to base of pronotum when laid alongside; segments 1 and 2 elongate-clavate, 1 nearly twice as long as 2; segment 3 weakly serrate, 1.5 times longer than 2; strongly serrate from segment 4 distally; segment 11 rounded, slightly truncate; segments 3 to 11 with excavated sensory pit at apex.

Pronotum black with lateral and basal margins broadly iridescent green; wider than long, ratio 10 to 7. Lateral margins sinuately parallel from obtuse hind angles to anterior third, then rounded to narrowest at anterior angles; anterior and posterior margins feebly bisinuate, median lobe of anterior margin weak, of basal margin truncate. Disk feebly convex, with depressions at base in midline and midway to lateral margin, surface sculpture confluent shallowly alveolate; hairs very short and inconspicuous. Scutellum transversely oval, surface finely reticulate.

Elytra violaceous-black with aeneous reflections, humeri violaceous, basal margin and sutural margin near base narrowly iridescent blue, transverse ivory fascia just anterior to middle extending from lateral margin more than half way to suture,

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apical 0.25 iridescent green, becoming cupreous at suture, cupreous extending forward to beyond middle; slightly narrower than pronotum at base, 2.5 times longer than wide. Sides subparallel to rounded apices, slightly constricted at middle; lateral and apical margins finely serrate. Disk feebly convex; surface coarsely, densely asperate and punctate; a few inconspicuous short hairs, mainly apically.

Ventral surface black, becoming iridescent blue-green on parts of metasternum and metacoxae, vertical parts of abdomen iridescent cupreous basally, less so api-



Fig. 1, *Isophaenus klapperichorum* new species, dorsal view, holotype. (length = 5.5 mm)

cally; legs piceous with bluish tints. Sculpture shallowly alveolate on thoracic sternites, more finely toward midline of prosternum, chagreened on abdominal sternites; sculptured areas with short semirecumbent white hair. Prosternum flattened, anterior margin straight; prosternal process feebly margined laterally, acute at apex. Mesosternum grooved for prosternal process and depressed in midline. Abdomen convex, slightly flattened at middle; last visible abdominal sternite truncate at apex, lateral margins finely serrate, disk with median carina; pygidium flattened, margins slightly explanate. Left foreleg absent, legs with femora moderately slender; tibiae slender; protibia feebly arcuate; meso- and metatibia longer and straight; protarsus absent, except for basal segment which is short; meso- and metatarsus slender, basal segment of mesotarsus as long as next 3 segments combined, slightly longer on metatarsus.

Length 5.5 mm; width 2.5 mm.

Holotype: sex unknown, Dominican Republic, Bani, 65 m. 1-VIII-71, J. & S. Klapperich. [Naturhistorisches Museum Basel, Switzerland].

Comparisons: The species most similar to *Isophaenus klapperichorum* is *I. strandi* Obenberger from Mexico. They are similar in general coloration and in the elytra having a median transverse yellow or white fascia, but in *I. klapperichorum* the head has the vertex black and the pronotum is margined laterally and basally with green, whereas in *I. strandi* the head has the vertex blue and the pronotum is completely margined with green. In *I. parallelus* Waterhouse, from Mexico, the general color of the elytra is predominantly green with a median transverse black fascia. Known only from Cuba, *I. acunai* Fisher differs from the other three species in having the elytra not narrowed at the middle, and general color of the elytra violaceous, with bases, apices, and median transverse fascia blue. Fisher (1936) also mentioned that the apical segment of the maxillary palpus is nearly as wide as long. While this character is not mentioned in the description of *I. strandi* (Obenberger 1928), in both *I. parallelus* Waterhouse (1889) and *I. klapperichorum*, the apical segment of the maxillary palpus is nearly twice as long as wide.

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